

WORKS IN PROGRESS

VOLUME 14, NUMBER 9

THURSTON COUNTY RAINBOW COALITION

JANUARY 2004

'Regional Justice Center' Ballot Issue Update

Chris Stegman

As reported in the December WIP, the Thurston County Commissioners voted to put an \$88 million bond issue for a new 'Regional Justice Center' on the May 18, 2004 ballot. This will be a single issue ballot measure.

At issue is how to address and deal with the longstanding overcrowding issue at the county jail. Shall we put our money into building bigger and bigger jails to deal with the lack of capacity for the ever-expanding numbers of those who violate the law or shall we put our money into "front end" programs such as prevention, treatment, pre-trial services, jobs programs for offenders, etc.

The city and county officials and those involved in the criminal justice establishment argue for both at the same time, but they're having trouble with the 'sustainability' argument. How will we afford the increased operational costs of the county's criminal justice system

(jails, courts, related services) if we build a new, expanded jail/courts facility?

The estimated cost of the first phase of construction for a new 650 bed jail and courtrooms is actually 102.7 million, and constitutes the largest single fiscal project in Thurston County's history—\$88 will come from the bond issue, if it passes, and the remaining \$14.7 million will come from the county's existing 'jail diversion tax fund'. The cost of the current bond will come from homeowner property tax increases—if you own a home valued at \$170,000 you'll pay \$87 per year for the next 20 years.

Additional construction phases, based upon passing bond issues or tax increases will add-on 'pods' comprised of 128 minimum security dorm-style jail 'beds'.

The eventual goal of the 'Regional Justice Center' proponents is to have a 1250 bed jail with all countywide courts

relocated from the present location (on the hill) to the new site. This will carry us through 2005, if projections hold up.

And what do we in 'Thurston Jail Alternatives' advocate? Negate the need for building bigger and costlier jail space and court systems by reducing the inmate population. How? By funding 'front-end' programs including crime prevention, treatment/rehabilitation of the mentally ill offender and chemically dependent; expanding options/alternatives programs to incarceration like the Drug Court, electronic home monitoring, Day Jail, work release and Day Reporting; institute a Mental Health Court to divert the chronic/acute mentally ill offenders to treatment programs; investing more money in pre-trial services to cut down the wait time inmates face before going to court; same for job services following release, and increasing probation and parole program staff; expand community services including transitional housing for the homeless,

crisis management/intervention, case management, individual and group counseling.

We're currently developing a draft campaign plan, setting up website and listserves, looking for committee lead persons to help with strategizing, research, outreach, flyer designs, and volunteer coordination. We're looking for people with campaign experience and foot soldiers to help get the word out to the broad voting public.

Thurston Jail Alternatives group meets Jan 3rd and Jan 31st at 1:30 pm in the Olympia Library's meeting room.

We will be mailing out a fund-raising letter by the month's end in preparation for early doorbelling which will begin January 17th. Send donations of any size to our Treasurer, Bill Pilkey, at 7223 20th Ave SE, Lacey WA 98503

Call Chris at 705-3528 or Bill at 412-4039 for more information or if you want to get involved. We need your help!

Capitol Campus Lockdown-Pretrial Hearing Scheduled

Drew Hendricks

On March 27, 2002 ten people locked themselves to the door of the Joel M. Pritchard Library on the Capitol Campus, symbolically locking the Senators who were using the building as temporary chambers into their place of work.

"The point of the action was to draw some attention to the effects and cost the war was having on the state of Washington and the complicity of Washington's political representatives in the march toward war," Marco Rossi recalled later. Marco had been one of the ten people who locked down that day.

"I'd still do it; I don't regret it at all."

Marco explained that the action called for the legislature of Washington to withhold the money which would be

spent on the war and use it instead for local social services.

The people locked down read two statements, and released information to the press that explained what they were trying to do. They did not get any action from their legislators.

On March 19, 2003, nine of the ten people who locked down are scheduled to have a hearing in front of Judge Clifford L. Stolz, Jr. One of the ten was underage, and has not been prosecuted. The remaining nine face \$1000 fines and potential jail time, and probably will serve some kind of probation if they are convicted. March 19th is the day before the national day of action on the War in Iraq; the 20th is the first anniversary of the beginning of the war.

The lengthy delay has caused some concern among the people who locked

down, many of whom believed it would have already been settled by now. The attorney for the remaining defendants, Larry Hildes of Bellingham, explained the delay:

"We've been fighting over discovery for a long time and there's still some stuff we don't have. They've produced some video, but not all of the video. The video was edited, we think."

According to one of the defendants, the video shows the police cameraman speaking to a man in plain clothes with some apparent familiarity. The man in plain clothes chastises the cameraman and tells him he is not supposed to be acknowledging his presence. Attorney Hildes believes the man was an undercover policeman at the event, and he is concerned that the Washington State Patrol is still refusing to name the man.

Reports of the events at the Capitol Campus the prior week mentioned undercover WSP officers in the crowd that had protested the beginning of the war on March 20th, 2003. Those officers were relaying information to Olympia Police about the political affiliations of some of the participants, according to a written report by Olympia Police Officer Christopher B Cook.

Thurston County Assistant Prosecutor Laura M Murphy is prosecuting the case. She had also prosecuted, but lost, the case against some activists and IMC reporters who were arrested June 7, 2002 during an action to block the Rainier-Satsop natural gas pipeline. Larry Hildes was also the defense attorney in that case.

The case numbers are C370913 - C370921, inclusive.

Others Reconsider Involvement In Iraq, While America Persists

Marco Rosaire Rossi

Sections of the Italian government have recently announced that they are considering withdrawing their military support from the coalition to occupy Iraq. The consideration for withdrawal comes after a devastating suicide bombing in the southeastern city of Nasiriya, which killed 17 Italians and eight Iraqi civilians. The instability of the situation in Iraq has made several nations, including those with extremely close ties to the United States, reconsider their

participation in the War. Japan has postponed its plans to send 1,000 troops to Iraq, and South Korea has cut its troop support from 5,000 to 3,000 soldiers. Even non-governmental organizations which are there to provide humanitarian assistance, such as the Red Cross, have pulled out due to security concerns in the region.

Out of all the nations involved in the coalition to occupy Iraq, the United States should be the most concerned. The United States, of all the occupying forces, has suffered the most casualties; 474 of its soldiers had died as of 12/17/

03. This amount is more than the number of fatalities in the first three years of American intervention in Vietnam. In addition, the longer and more harshly the United States occupies Iraq, the more likely the US could face a terrorist attack similar to those on Sept 11th, 2001.

Despite this, the Bush administration remains headstrong about continuing its policies in Iraq, at a great risk to Americans, and unbearable loss to Iraqis. Iraq has by far suffered the greatest losses in this conflict. Some human rights organizations have measured the number of Iraqis who have perished

during the initial invasion, and published figures of between 3,000 and 10,000 persons. Considering the after-effects of the invasion, the conflicts that have occurred since then, and the total restructuring of Iraqi society by the coalition forces, the charity medical organization Medact has concluded that somewhere between 22,000 and 50,000 Iraqis have died as a direct result of the invasion and occupation of Iraq.

The Iraqi people, more than anyone, are well aware of this horrible situation, and they do not like it. A recent CIA

(Continued page 11)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Works In Progress is a community newspaper sponsored by the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Rainbow Coalition or the Workers In Progress and are solely those of the authors.

Submissions:

Correspondence, articles, art, and photographs are always welcome. Please, when possible, put articles on a 3.5" IBM-compatible disk (text preferred) or via e-mail. Artwork and photos should be camera-ready/black & white.

WIP reserves the right to publish in whole or part all submissions. For editing purposes, please enclose your phone number.

Articles may be reprinted. Please cite source.

If you don't see your issue being covered in *Works In Progress*, it's because you aren't writing about it! Or you aren't submitting it!

Send submissions to Works In Progress, PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507-0295, <wip@olywa.net>

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Get your catalog of indexed WIPs below. Some back issues are available in the Timberland Library system. WIP is being archived on microfilm by the UW Library.

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Mission Statement:

"Our aim is to confront injustice and encourage a participatory democracy based on economic, social, and environmental justice. Works In Progress is dedicated to providing a voice for those most affected by the exclusionary and unfair practices that seek to silence the oppressed."

Anti-Discrimination Clause:

We will collectively endeavor to be sensitive and respectful to all those oppressed in this society, and their issues. However, if and when we should make a mistake in this regard, we expect to acknowledge it and to express regret for injury or insult given.

Governing Tool:

The following statement will become part of the Editorial Policy and will be the governing tool for the Anti-Discrimination Clause: *WIP will make every effort to work with the contributor of material considered by WIP to be offensive in order to reach a mutually agreed upon resolution, but WIP reserves the right as a last resort to edit or not print submitted material.*

Announcements, etc.

WROC Night Out

WROC Night Out is Monday, January 5th, at the First United Methodist Church, 1224 Legion Way SE. Join us at 5:30 pm for a potluck. From 6 - 8 pm, we will explore ways we can be effective legislative advocates, from attending our presidential caucuses, to educating our state legislators to create laws and policies that fight poverty, not poor people. We have on site child care. Questions, call 352-9716.

WIP Seeking Back-up Layout Volunteer

Interested in putting your PageMaker skills to use for social change? Then give us a call at 956-1168 or come to our next meeting January 23 at 11:00 AM at Traditions!

WIP Needs Distributors!

We have a couple of distribution routes in need of drivers. Interested in a small but essential volunteering role at WIP? Then call us at 956-1168 or come to our next meeting January 23 at 11:00 Am at Traditions!

Thurston County Chapter of the ACLU of Washington

Annual Membership Meeting

Featuring: "PATRIOT Acts" The Bill of Rights Theatre Project—a mix of theatre and discussion on the impact of antiterrorism policies since 9/11 featuring the GAP Theatre

Tuesday, January 20

7 p.m.-10 p.m.

Olympia Center, Multipurpose Room B

Join us to celebrate the achievements of the last year and to plan our chapter's activities for the coming year. All ACLU members and supporters are welcome to attend and to participate. If you can bring refreshments to our meeting, please contact Michelle Hall at 413-3994 or secretary@aclu-thurston.org. For additional information contact info@aclu-thurston.org or call Bruce DeLoria at 456-7180.

WIP Schedule

Submission Deadline:

Friday,
January 23rd

WIP Meeting
Call 956-1168
for more info

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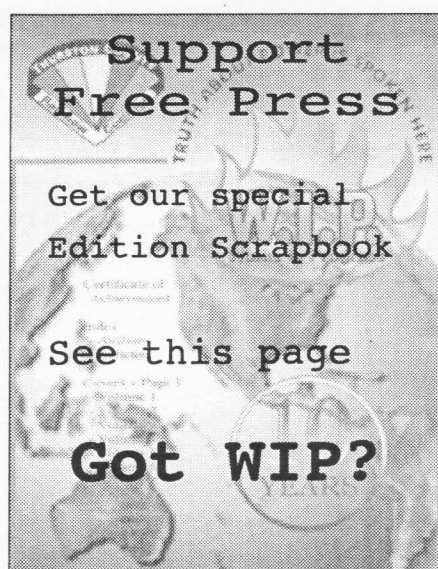
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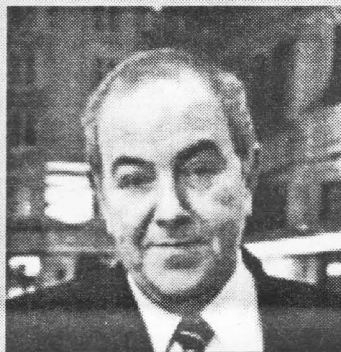
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JANUARY 2004

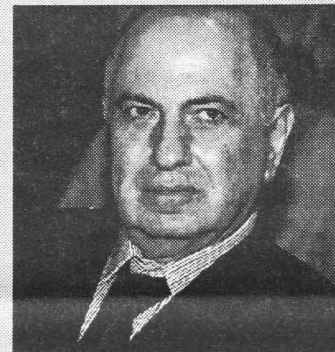
CIA's Allawi vs Pentagon's Chalabi

The Baghdad Bowl



Dr. Ayad Allawi
Iraqi Nat'l Accord

Ayad Allawi (INA) and Ahmad Chalabi (INC) both formed and lead Iraqi exile groups that received money from the US and separately attempted to overthrow Hussein in the 1990s. As US appointed members of the Iraqi Governing Council, each is jockeying for power over control of Iraq's rapidly proliferating security organizations.



Ahmad Chalabi
Iraqi Nat'l Congress

Allawi is a Shiite Muslim. He was trained as a doctor and is a former Ba'athist who defected in the 1970s.

Head of the security committee of the Governing Council. His deputy (who is also his brother-in-law) runs the interior ministry which controls 50,000 police.

Accuses Chalabi of undermining central authority by backing creation of a private military company to secure the oil sector. (Close associates of Chalabi teamed up with Erinys International to train/ deploy a 6,500 Iraqi force. Erinys admits to recruiting US-trained Iraqi Free Forces who entered Iraq with Chalabi.

Mr Allawi argues the interior ministry should regulate the oil security force.

Chalabi was born into wealthy banking family that left Iraq when the monarchy was overthrown in 1957. Educated in London, he is "a completely Westernized businessman." Convicted in Jordan for massive bank fraud: \$300 million in depositors' accounts vanished.

After he mishandled 2 million dollars meant for the Iraqi resistance, the CIA refused to work with him.

Later funneled "intelligence" about Iraq's weapons of mass destruction to the Office of Special Plans.

Accuses Allawi of encouraging foreign interference in Iraq's security. (The Jordanian government had won a contract to train 32,000 Iraqi police and Allawi's INA run interior ministry is seen as the beneficiary.)

Sources: Chris Floyd, *Moscow Times*; *Financial Times*; *Washington Post*; *The Guardian*; BBC; and AFP.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Erinys Iraq...is one of the great success stories of the occupation, having already bagged big money to ride shotgun for Halliburton and Bechtel as they spread their beneficent tentacles throughout the conquered land. Now little Erinys will guard the Holy Grail of the entire invasion project: Iraq's oil industry. Chris Floyd, Moscow Times				1 2003: Venezuelan Pres. Chavez calls upper class lead strike a "conspiracy", "Venezuelan workers are on the side of the government."	2 2003: MIT refuses gov. research study that restricts participation by foreign students 2003: Bob Macleod takes office	3 2002: Clean up of Cascade Pole completed 2003: Peruvian court strikes down anti-terror laws used against 90s rebel movements
4 2002: Scientists report Dolly has arthritis 2003: Aid group reports fighting in the Congo forced 155,000 to flee their homes	5 2003: New guidelines issued by EPA/Army Corp of Engineers abandoning protection of isolated wetlands (30% of all wetlands)	6 2003: UN nuclear agency to give N Korea another chance to abandon its covert weapons program and readmit inspectors	7 2003: The Big "O" reports LOTT Wastewater Alliance is worried Miller Brewing is trying to sell the Tumwater brewery	8 2003: Fed Appeals Court rules US citizens overseas who fight against US can be held as enemy combatants losing rights	9 2003: Miller is shutting down brewery by July 2003: UN inspector says no evidence of nuclear, chemical, biological weapons in Iraq	10 1903: Argentina bars importation of US beef for sanitary reasons 2002: Marines move al-Qaida prisoners to Guantanamo
11 2003: IL Gov Ryan commutes all death sentences (167) 2003: Alaska Airline Flight 261 crash due to poor maintenance	12 2002: Timberland libraries in Olympia, Tumwater, and Lacey announces they will be reducing hours to make up for budget shortfall	13 2003: Locke announces proposes to delay pay raises for school employees to 2005 2003: Women majority in WA Supreme Court	14 2002: Wetland acre-for-acre rule rescinded 2003: 22,000+ teachers rally at Capitol Campus against cutbacks in education funding	15 2002: John Walker Lindh charged with conspiracy 2003: Venezuelan currency drops as strike continues	16 2002: Sen. Maria Cantwell visits Cuba 2003: Boeing sending layoff notices to 650 workers in continuing reduction in force	17 2003: France joins UN weapon inspectors in urging the Security Council to give weapons inspectors more time in Iraq
18 2003: 500,000 in WA DC, 20,000 in Portland OR, 200,000 in San Francisco, and more across US protest against invading Iraq	19 2003: Coretta Scott King says Martin would be happy for people to "follow his teachings" and to not "depend on a leader"	20 2003: 1000s march in King Day rallies in Seattle protesting war 2003: France says there is no justification for invading Iraq	21 2003: Poll shows 54% fear Bush administration will move too quickly to take military action against Iraq; 39% fear he won't	22 2003: Venezuelan Supreme Court stops presidential referendum 2003: European members block NATO support in invasion of Iraq	23 2003: Homeland Security officially begins 2003: Researchers found link between lymphocytic leukemia and Agent Orange	24 2003: St. Peter's Hospital won't vaccinate hospital staff against small pox; "the risk of spreading the vaccinia virus is just too high"
25 2003: Pentagon plans to use nuclear arms if Iraq uses chemical or biological weapons 2003: LOTT rescinds contract with Miller	26 2003: Colin Powell says he has lost faith in the inspector's ability to conduct a definitive search for banned weapons programs	27 2002: Rumsfeld says 158 captives at Guantanamo not POWs 2003: Hans Blix claims Iraq is not serious about disarming	28 2003: Roman Catholic church pays \$300,000 and a public apology to Irish man who was abused by a priest when he was an altar boy	29 2002: Bush: "War against terror is only beginning" 2003: Miller offers brewery workers three weeks severance pay	30 2003: Mandela: One power w/ a president who has no foresight and cannot think properly wants to plunge the world into a holocaust	31 1952: Truman denounces McCarthy as pathological, untruthful, and a character assassin who needs no proof for his claims

Oral History of Anna Schlecht, Part 4: The Most Fertile Ground

Transcribed and edited by Megan Davis

Olympian Anna Schlecht has played many roles in the struggle for social justice, although she is probably best known for her persevering gay civil rights work. What follows is an oral history series from excerpts of a '99 interview when, tape recorder rolling, she talked about the political work she does and the local activist community we share. This is the last part of a four-part series.

(Megan) You have contributed to and led so many different kinds of social change projects, in so many different contexts. And you've also been in this community for years, and seen lots of different approaches that other activists take. What kind of work have you found to be most effective and rewarding?

(Anna) Earlier we were talking about how to build mutual respect with our political friends – the people we share goals and strategies with in our political organizations. I'm also interested in how you can build mutual respect with people so different that you almost consider them an enemy – how to find common ground with them to bridge those gaps. In gay rights organizing, I've made it a point to try to meet and spend time with the proponents of anti-gay measures. If nothing else, we spend a lot of time together at public hearings, we might as well get to know each other. After talking, we come to find that there are some things that we share as human beings. That realization makes it much harder for them to demonize me. Doing diversity training with groups that are resistant to diversity training is one way to do that kind of thing – to open up a dialogue and get people to realize, you know, "Well, you're going to be what you are, and I'm going to be what I am, but there are ways that we can shorten the gap of what really makes us different?" I've been doing diversity training (late 1990's) for different government groups, including law enforcement, which has been kind of tough. Now that's really getting away from working with your friends and your pals. But for the past five years that's what's excited me the most.

Diversity training with law enforcement is like being an emissary of the left, taking a package of our beliefs and values, and sort of crossing the great divide to talk to people who you could fairly stereotype as predominantly right of center. One of the things we found was that people were a lot more open to it than we thought. But it certainly involved talking to some real hard-nose people that had a problem with anyone who was different from them. But honestly, I also find that kind closed-mindedness on the left among activists who think everyone who doesn't think exactly like them is bad. But it has been pretty rugged to talk respectfully with folks who hold extreme right wing views.

After a while, quite a number of them come to realize, "Well, she wants a safe community. She might be gay, but they hate child molesters too. She pays her taxes. She works hard at her job, she

loves her kid." There's a lot more there in common than many of them realize. It's amazing to see those moments of shared humanity. That's one of the things that really excites me in any kind of activism – Like, what you were talking about, when environmentalists find ways to talk with loggers, or to talk with striking workers at Kaiser Aluminum,

"One of the things that happens with polarization is that people don't talk ... If folks don't get a chance to talk out their stereotypes it's pretty hard to let go of them."

and to find ways to accentuate the commonalities. You have to acknowledge the difference, but really focus on the commonalities. I mean, when you work with people you totally agree with, what changes? What becomes different? What do you learn? Not alot! But when the group of people you work with goes out and starts talking to people that don't share your views, that's where the change can happen, and that thrills me out of my skull.

(Megan) How exactly do you go about the diversity trainings?

(Anna) We're (were) an ad-hoc volunteer group, a culturally diverse group that does these for different government agencies. Typically what we do is everybody talks a little bit about who I am and what life is like for somebody like me in America, and then opens it up to comments and questions. Sometimes it's kind of a prepared lecture: "These are the facts of diversity. Learn them, or suffer the consequences!" How effective is that? Nobody likes to be told what to think, most people resent authority. Typically, diversity trainings are conducted with members of targeted groups as the sole presenters. One of the things that we found to be really effective is when a diversity training is conducted like a 'diversity dialogue,' where you have a group of people that

"I think a big mistake in campus-based leftism is that so much of it is based on 'fact-delivery' and not dialogue ... If you want to affect social change, you put yourself out in that river of humanity where you want to see the change happen."

includes your average straight white guy, somebody who doesn't feel comfortable with people of color or gays and people like that. And to have a dialogue where you actually have somebody on the panel who says, "Olympia's really changed. It isn't a white community anymore, and it's been tough to adjust. And now you gotta deal with all these gay people, and it's against my religion..." all that and more! When you get people open enough to start saying those kinds of things, that's the point when real dialogue can start. Of course some people will never change, that's reality. But then other people start to change – and that's a beautiful

thing. The dialogue approach to social change work is often viewed as a kind of "feel good" reformist-therapy approach. But think about it – how do human beings really change? It's over time, it's talking with people, it's having new experiences that allow them to reflect on what they used to think might not be right. Maybe not all gays are child molesters. Maybe not all African-American teenage boys are in gangs. Maybe not all Hispanics are illegal immigrants, stealing jobs or whatever. If folks don't get a chance to talk out their

stereotypes it's pretty hard to let go of them. Diversity training is not for the faint of heart, but the pay-offs are incredible. One of the things that happens with polarization is that people don't talk. I'm often the only gay person that a whole lot of people have ever talked to. And if you don't talk to somebody who's gay, what do you know? Stereotypes. So it's interesting, it's very personal, it's very real. It's [a] direct, person-to-person social justice dialogue.

(Megan) How has your activism changed over the years- what have you learned that's changed your politics?

(Anna) What have I learned? I think the biggest thing is I hope I've learned to listen more than I talk, although it's obviously not happening during this interview. [laughing] If you wanna have a real exchange with somebody, you have to listen. People used to go to the village square and talk. What people do now is they call in on these talk shows. There are a lot of people who want to talk about their opinions and beliefs, who really want to talk about the issues. I think there's more people that want to be listened to than want to listen. I think a big mistake in campus-based leftism is that so much of it is based on "fact-delivery" and not dialogue. I think for students... so much of your daily lives are based on learning

have the luxury to go beyond their immediate needs.

(Megan) Are these two models that you mentioned, which imitate college and business structures, the main models you see activists using in their work?

(Anna) They are two of the main models I see in this community. There's a lot of other models, certainly. Another way that you can look at it is radical versus reform. "Radical" means that you need to go to the root of the problem of whatever it is, cut out the bad stuff and start from the ground up and create what you believe is right. Typically, radical action attracts smaller numbers of folks because the goals and actions are perceived as riskier, albeit more pure. Reform means strategically choosing more moderate political actions as a way to mobilize a larger number of people to work on political goals that can be achieved. Reformists believe that it's tough to get people to join radical actions and movements right off the bat, but you can find projects or activities that are more moderate with more realistic goals where folks actually win something. And from that win, you can move on to a deeper and more significant and more profound change.

Another model is doing external, more public work where you're putting on demonstrations and getting people to deal with what's going on in Chiapas, or you're getting people to deal with their consumerism habits as regards the environment. This is different from the personal model.... more of a one-to-one approach where you're really dealing with people as individuals. This is where you take the time to ask "Who are you? What brings you to this point in your life where you live in a way where you use products that destroy the environment?" For example, when it comes to whales (The Makah whale hunt was a huge controversy in the late 1990's) an activist could take the time to ask people "What makes you think that the Makah are the biggest threat to whales on the globe? Did you know that twelve washed ashore in the Puget Sound, most likely because of pollution? One versus twelve. Can we talk about that?" One of the things about the campaigns that I do like is they take me to the streets, and I spend a hellacious amount of time going door-to-door, talking to people in bars and grocery stores, and tabling at places like Costco. Yeesh – imagine spending eight hours a day at a place like Costco! [We laugh.] But those are the times when you can have profound, albeit short conversations with people. If you want to affect social change, you put yourself out in that river of humanity where you want to see the change happen. Of course you get knocked over the rocks a lot, but that's where the flow of people is. You get in one or two statements, and then they tell you a few things. Those are the political synapses of social change. I think another really good way to make those kinds of things happen is to have debates. Leftists often don't want to give airtime to the other side, but I think that's a mistake. But when you put on debates or panel discussions that truly represent many sides of a view, that's when you get a lot of people to come who are really interested in the issues. And they ask ques-

(Continued next page)

(Anna Schlecht, continued)
tions. Sometimes they make reasonable comments, sometimes they make outlandish comments. But people talk.

I did a number of debates on affirmative action, and it was wild! You hear things from people that just make you want to emigrate to Mars! But then you also talk to people who are very thoughtful, and they listen and they tell you their experience... It's that really exciting space where human beings exchange ideas and can affect each other. I find that's really the most fertile ground for social change.

This interview took place in 1999. The following is Anna's postscript, written recently: *It's always awkward to read what you said in the past. Things*

change, beliefs evolve. What is constant for me is the belief that community activism is best undertaken the same way you tend a garden - with diligent, nurturing kindness. Our issues and organizations need the steady, supportive involvement that helps each of us to grow our commitments to social justice. There will always be times for anger at injustice and frustration with disagreeable colleagues. But our best work is that which, in the words of Che Guevara, is inspired by deep feelings of love.

VIC'S PIZZERIA



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Ana makes a lovely vegan sauce!

The Search For Peace: The Palestinian-Israeli Conflict

(A message from TESC President Les Purce to the community)

The Evergreen State College would like to extend a warm invitation to you to attend a lecture series and community dialogue created in partnership with our Evergreen faculty and the Olympia area community members called: "The Search For Peace: The Palestinian-Israeli Conflict." The series will address controversial issues related to history, human rights, religion, US foreign policy, and international and local movements for peace and justice. A variety of national and northwest experts will be speaking.

The lectures will be followed by small group discussions among community members, using trained facilitators from the community. Participants will also examine communication dimensions of the conflict including the difficult dialogues that emerge, even in our own community, when peoples' perceptions of the conflict differ. This series will be held at the First Church of Christ Scientist on 8th and Washington in Olympia on six Thursdays from January 8 through March 4 from 7-10 p.m.

This work is the result of a group I convened last summer, to address the tension and on-going discord in our community over Israel and Palestine, especially after the death of our student, Rachel Corrie. The group included Evergreen faculty, students and staff, members from the local temples, the local mosque and other religious groups, and community groups. I asked the group to focus on expanding local understanding of the challenges to peace in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. I am excited by the event that the partnership has created and hope that you will join us for one or more of these timely and critical topics.

The Search For Peace: The Palestinian-Israeli Conflict Selected Thursdays From January to March 2004

At the First Church of Christ Scientist on 8th and Washington in Olympia

January 8, 2004 - Difficult Dialogues
Mohammed Abu- Nimer (American University)
Rabbi Seth Goldstein (Temple Beth Hatfiloh, Olympia)

January 22, 2004 - The History of Conflict
Ellis Goldberg (University of Washington)
Farhat Ziadeh (University of Washington)

February 12, 2004 - Religious Dimensions
Marc Ellis (Baylor University)
Lance Laird (The Evergreen State College)

February 19, 2004 - U.S. Policy
Naseer Aruri (University of Massachusetts)
Stephen Zunes (University of San Francisco)

February 26, 2004 - The Israeli Right, Hamas, and Obstacles to Peace
Ilan Peleg (Lafayette College)
Steve Niva (The Evergreen State College)

March 4, 2004 - Women's Movements & Peace Movements in Israel/Palestine
Therese Saliba (The Evergreen State College)
Simona Sharoni (The Evergreen State College)
Representatives from Local Organizations

The space for this announcement was paid for by a private citizen.

Olympia Police Withhold Information

Drew Hendricks, Olympia Copwatch

Olympia Police have begun releasing documents detailing the use of force by its officers in 2002, but are still withholding crucial information from Olympia Copwatch, including all of 2003's documents.

In documents released on Tuesday, December 16, Olympia Police detailed 109 separate uses of force during the last half of 2002. Of those incidents, 21 (19%) involved TASERS. Unfortunately, the employee who redacted the documents to protect the privacy of witnesses and non-convicted suspects also decided to redact the case numbers, dates, and officer names from the reports. Commander Steven R Nelson would not comment in time for publication, but claimed to be writing a letter Thursday afternoon, which would explain why his office had redacted the information so extensively.

The documents were requested in September to support a campaign to have the TASER, a conducted energy weapon which uses jolts of 50,000 volts to inflict pain, reclassified as a defensive and potentially deadly weapon. Case reports and procedure manuals of the Olympia Police Department reveal that the weapon is being used to gain compliance, but is rarely used defensively. Many people who have experienced the weapon's effects say that it is extremely painful.

City Attorney Bob Sterbank had promised that the documents would contain the officers' names and case numbers so that Olym-

pia Copwatch could follow up on specific cases, and track which officers used force more often than average. He called and apologized Friday for the misunderstanding.

The documents are called Supervisors Checklists and are used by police supervisors to check which documents are used to explain the use of force in specific cases. They are the reports by which a supervisor communicates his conclusions about whether an officer used force correctly. The same documents are sent to the Police Auditor in fully redacted form so that he can be completely neutral in his evaluation of the procedures. It is possible that the employee who was tasked with this release was redacting them according to that protocol.

The documents were requested under the Washington State Open Records Act, RCW 42.17.250 by appearing at the police department and asking for a documents request form during regular business hours.

References:
<http://www.atg.wa.gov/records/> (Open Records Act explained by WA Attorney General)
Commander Steven R Nelson,
snelson@ci.olympia.wa.us (360) 753-8146
City Attorney Bob Sterbank,
bsterbank@ci.olympia.wa.us (360) 753-8449

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Michael Pilarski (360) 676-7704 friendsofthetrees@yahoo.com
Marisha Auerbach (360) 943-5262 queenbee@herbnwisdom.com

ATTENTION OLYMPIA BLEEDING HEARTS!



Help wanted in your hometown.

The local homeless population is having a particularly rough winter this year, given the current political climate and the closing of Bread and Roses. A lot of people's basic winter-time needs are not being met right now. So why not start off the New Year by donating a share of the stuff they need the most?

Consider yourself encouraged to donate to the Emma Goldman Youth and Homeless Outreach Project (EGYHOP). EGYHOP is a local group that works with Olympia-area homeless folks to help them meet their basic needs and empower themselves. In addition to collecting and distributing donated goods, they help people to access available resources and maintain personal relationships with individuals. They also run the EGYHOP Bike Project, which provides free bikes and bike maintenance training to low/no income people. Long Hair David, who heads the project, guesses that they gave away around 100 bikes in the past year.

To donate to EGYHOP, drop off or mail your donations to 1103 5th Ave.

SE, Olympia, 98501. Or contact Long Hair David at (360) 791-2241, blackkitty@comcast.net. EGYHOP is a non-profit project of Media Island International. Receipts for tax-deductible donations are available upon request.

Suggested Donation Items:

Most essential: **sleeping bags and tents!** Warm blankets, flashlights, batteries, candles, first-aid kits, gym bags, shaving kit bags, backpacks, key chain tools, nail clippers, gloves, can openers, duct tape, black trash bags, shoe and boot laces, sewing kits, **socks**, sweatshirts (especially hooded ones), thermal underwear (especially bottoms!), coats (especially L, XL-XXXL sizes), rain gear/ ponchos, gloves, hats, fleece wear, tarps, campstoves, bungee cords, twine and other cording, other camping supplies, tampons and pads, pre-packaged foods like Cliff Bars, vitamins, art supplies, etc.

Also welcome are **usable and rebuildable bikes and bike parts**, as well as bike locks, bike racks, panniers, bike repair tools and all other usable accessories.

Patriot Act Watch

Federal Courts Revoke Detentions of "Enemy Combatants" and Withholding of Legal Representation of Guantanamo Prisoners

Howard Rosenfeld

The ACLU reports that 229 communities, counties or states have passed resolutions condemning the Patriot Act and supporting civil liberties. The latest group of resolutions of local interest come from the City of Tacoma and the King County Council. The Tacoma resolution actually is pretty good - asking for local, state and federal law enforcement officials to take steps to report on any activity they are undertaking under the powers of the Patriot Act; it also asks the U.S. Attorney's Office, the FBI and the WA State Police to

"... report to the Tacoma Human Rights Commission regularly and publicly the extent to and manner in which they have acted under the USA PATRIOT Act, new Executive Orders, or COINTELPRO-type regulations, including disclosing the names of any detainees held in western Washington or any Tacoma residents detained elsewhere; ..."

The Tacoma resolution also requests that copies of the Bill of Rights be posted in public buildings that get a lot of foot-traffic, urges the library to notify their patrons that their records may be subject to searches and declares Dec. 15th "Bill of Rights Day" in the city of Tacoma, encouraging readings and studying the bill of rights in all schools and public places. Way to go, Tacoma!

The King County resolution isn't as long or wordy and really has no teeth to it. It does urge Congress to adopt S. 1709, the SAFE Act, which is something not mentioned in the Tacoma resolution. Read the entire text of the acts at the ACLU-Washington website: <http://www.aclu.wa.org/SafeAndFree/ResolutionsPassed.htm>

There are no new updates on bills pending in Congress to nullify or modify the Patriot Act.

Elsewhere, the New-York-based 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ordered Jose Padilla released from military custody within 30 days and if the government chooses, tried in civilian courts. The White House said the government would appeal and seek a stay of the decision. Padilla, a U.S. citizen, was arrested in May 2002 and accused of orchestrating a bomb plot with help from al-Qaida. He was being held as an enemy combatant at a naval brig in South Carolina and was being denied any of the usual due process rights usually exercised by people in prison.

In the other case, a three-judge panel of the San Francisco-based 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that prisoners held at Guantanamo Bay Naval Base should have access to lawyers and the American court system. "Not one, but two federal courts have rebuked the President today for his belief that he should be able to lock people up without

basic access to our justice and without Congressional approval," said Anthony Romero, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU).

"No President should be able to assume such unilateral authority over people's freedoms, most crucially during times of threat to our national well-being," he added.

New York-based Human Rights Watch (HRW) also hailed the two decisions as an important vindication for basic liberties. "Both (decisions) attacked the Bush administration's view

"Not one, but two federal courts have rebuked the President today for his belief that he should be able to lock people up without basic access to our justice and without Congressional approval."

Anthony Romero, ACLU Executive Director

that a war metaphor can justify restrictions on basic criminal justice rights away from a traditional battlefield," Kenneth Roth, HRW's executive director, told the New York Times.

Justice Department officials, who said they believed the two 2-1 decisions were flawed, indicated they may seek further review. The cases could well wind up in the Supreme Court, according to legal analysts on both sides.

In related news, on Dec. 2nd, the Pentagon announced that its officials had agreed to let Yaser Esam Hamdi, also an American citizen, finally consult with a lawyer, after being held for 18 months. Hamdi was captured on the battlefield in Afghanistan and has since been in a legal limbo, unable to see a lawyer or meet with any family members.

Displaying remarkable foresight, a chief author and principal intellectual force behind the Patriot Act, Viet Dinh, said in a series of recent speeches and in an interview with the LA Times, that he thought the government's detention of Jose Padilla was flawed and unlikely to survive court review. Until May, Dinh headed the Justice Department's Office of Legal Policy and is now a professor at Georgetown University Law Center. The trouble with the Padilla case, Dinh said, is that the government hasn't established any framework for permitting Padilla to respond, and that it seems to think it has no legal duty to do so. Another former Justice Department official, Michael Chertoff, who headed the department's criminal division, has said he believed the government should reconsider how it designates enemy combatants.

In a story from the LA Times and picked up by the Associated Press, a study released by researchers at Syracuse University concluded that while

the government has convicted 184 people of crimes deemed to be "international terrorism," defendants were sentenced to a median prison term of just 14 days - and in some cases received no jail time at all. To some, the study is further evidence that the department is exaggerating the success of its anti-terrorism efforts, and raises questions about its strategy of casting a wide net.

On December 13th, the intelligence bill written about in last month's Patriot Act Watch was signed into law by President Bush (Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2004).

Also, a federal judge strongly criti-

cized U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft on Dec 16th for violating a "gag" order imposed during the first terror-related trial following the Sept. 11th attacks. "Despite his unquestioned duty to represent the nation on matters of public concern, and his more specific

responsibility to keep the nation informed of the Justice Department's efforts in the war on terror, the Attorney General has an equally vital and unyielding obligation, as the nation's chief prosecutor, to ensure that defendants are accorded the fair trial guaranteed them under the constitution," wrote U.S. District Court Judge Gerald Rosen in Tuesday's ruling.

Sources:

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3). Schmitt, Richard B., "Patriot Act Author Has Concerns", Los Angeles Times, Nov. 30th, 2003.

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Miami: FTAA [Free Trade Area of the Americas]

Branden Wilson

It's 6:45 p.m., Thursday, November 20, US Trade Representative Robert Zoellick and Brazilian Foreign Minister Celso Amorin are standing at a podium flanked by ministers from the other 32 nations of the Western Hemisphere, minus Cuba. They are announcing that the FTAA ministerial is ending a day early and jousting with the ghosts of Cancun. "The Cancun WTO meeting ended a little bit early too, but not in as happy circumstances," says Zoellick. The reporter from the Wall Street Journal is puzzled. He asks, "There's this great chemistry . . . What went on? Maybe you went out to dinner last night?"

Fourteen of the 24 countries that at one time or another were part of the "group of 20" or G-20 that defied the US and EU in Cancun are in Latin America: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba (which is excluded from the FTAA), Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, and Venezuela. More than a dinner date explains the change in the disposition of Messrs. Zoellick and Amorin.

The bullying of the G-20 began even before the Cancun meetings had finished. The White House threatened trade retaliation, termination of ongoing negotiations, and elimination of trade benefits. In spite of this, only El Salvador caved in during the meetings and left the group, though within a month Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, Costa Rica, and Guatemala would follow. Senator Norm Coleman warned Colombia's President Alvaro Uribe that "remaining in that group will not lead to good relations between Colombia and the United States." Chief mob enforcer Zoellick declared "resistance and protest do not constitute an effective strategy. In my talks with some of those countries I sense that they are drawing the right conclusions."

On Tuesday Zoellick had announced that the US would soon be finalizing talks for the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA), commencing talks for a regional "free trade" agreement (FTA) with the Andean countries of Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru, and Colombia, and pursuing bilateral FTAs with Panama and the Dominican Republic. On Friday, he announced talks for a

bilateral investment treaty (BIT) with Uruguay would begin early next year.

Argentina, Bolivia, Ecuador, Grenada, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Trinidad and Tobago have already ratified BITs with the US. All of these treaties contain investor-state provisions that allow companies to sue countries for loss of profits due to labor or environmental regulations, and most also contain intellectual property provisions that put essential drugs out of the reach of the poor. This complex web of BITs opens up these economies to US corporate control and leaves them susceptible to manipulations and threats;

only Brazil and Venezuela have some measure of independence. And the agreement in Miami largely neutralizes Brazil as well.

It was always possible for the United States to "make a deal" with Brazil and thereby split the G-20, the problem was that the United States was unwilling to make even the minor concessions necessary to do so. In the Florida press, leading up to the FTAA meeting, great attention was given to the concerns of the citrus and sugar industries in Florida about the proposed agreement. Maintaining the 27-cent tariff on Brazilian

"The White House threatened trade retaliation, termination of ongoing negotiations, and elimination of trade benefits."

orange juice concentrate is a big political issue for Florida and its Governor Jeb Bush, who campaigned on behalf of the tariff with his brother. Likewise, the sugar industry in Florida has close ties with the Bush family and to right-wing Cuban-American groups whose support will be crucial in the 2004 presidential election.

As was pointed out immediately by US trade officials, the G-20 countries have widely divergent interests. The

"While the internet is an important tool, traditional educational efforts like teach-ins and literature distribution are essential. All these tactics and more will be necessary to stop the FTAA and roll back the neo-liberal agenda in the Americas."

main division is that between the agro-exporting countries, like Brazil and Argentina, which want lower tariffs on their products in US markets, and the countries of small producers, like Mexico, which want an end to US dumping on their markets, and the ability to protect their farmers through import restrictions and production controls.

The Miami Ministerial Declaration has been widely characterized as "FTAA-lite" or as a "buffet-style" agreement. However, this characterization is not entirely accurate. The oft-quoted sentence of the declaration that the "ministers recognize that countries may assume different levels of commitments" should be read in context of the next two sentences; "We will seek to develop a common set of rights and obligations applicable to all countries. In addition, negotiations should allow for countries that so choose, within the FTAA, to agree to additional obligations and benefits."

Furthermore, the agreement leaves the smaller, weaker economies of the Americas to fend for themselves and allows the US to roll over the issue of agricultural subsidies to the Doha round of negotiations at the WTO, which it is in no hurry to resume. Professor of Environmental Law and Policy at the

Tulane Institute, Eric Dannenmaier aptly summed up the danger of the current phase of the FTAA thus: "Left to fend for themselves, many fear that small countries will be so much chum for the sharks."

This classic divide-and-rule strategy of the Bush administration is in part a tactical response to its defeat in multilateral institutions, but also reflects basic policy differences between the Bush and Clinton administrations. The Bush approach is more nationalist, protectionist, and unilateralist in its trade and investment policies.

Although the Bush administration recently backed off on steel tariffs of up to 30% it had imposed in March 2002, this was only after the EU threatened \$4 billion in retaliatory tariffs. The 2002 farm bill, which was partially responsible for the collapse of the WTO negotiations in Cancun, provided \$18 billion a year to U.S. agribusiness, causing dumping on third world markets, driving millions of farmers off their land. The Bush administration has also recently put tariffs on Canadian soft lum-

ber and Chinese textiles. Alan Greenspan, who normally does not comment on trade issues, recently warned of "emerging clouds of protectionism."

This new nationalist and unilateralist emphasis in US trade and investment policy presents a new challenge for our movement. It demands increased vigilance and will require a diversity of tactics to defeat. Nevertheless, mass-protests at meetings of international elites may take on less importance in the current phase of the struggle. We must not repeat the earlier failure to prevent Bush from getting Trade Promotion Authority, which only passed the House of Representatives by a single vote after

the clock when one congressperson was compelled to change his vote.

Likewise the FTAs with Chile and Singapore received almost no scrutiny in the press and were not even widely known about within the movement, though they include investment protections stronger than those of NAFTA. We must not repeat these failures with CAFTA and the host of new bilaterals coming out of Miami. The CAFTA negotiations ended on 17th December in Washington, DC in spite of a walkout by Costa Rica. This deal will go to Congress in early spring and its passage by Congress must be prevented. The Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES) has a put together an excellent model of grassroots lobbying that should be studied and copied. Go to http://www.cispes.org/english/Campaign_Against_CAFTA_FTAA/Organizing_Materials.htm.

The corporations driving the FTAA process, such as the "big three" private donors hosting the FTAA conference in Miami: General Motors, FedEx, and PepsiCo; or those pushing for concessions in specific sectors like Bechtel in water or Eli Lilly in drug patents, might also be good targets for local actions. We might also consider expanding our protests to the institutions behind the FTAA process, the so-called Tripartite Committee, which is made up of the Inter American Development Bank (IDB), The Organization of American States (OAS), and the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). This will take research and ongoing educational efforts. While the internet is an important tool, traditional educational efforts like teach-ins and literature distribution are essential. All these tactics and more will be necessary to stop the FTAA and roll back the neo-liberal agenda in the Americas.

For more information on Latin America, try these internet sites:

<http://www.rebellion.org>
<http://alainet.org>

On globalization try:

<http://www.focusweb.org>
<http://www.foodfirst.org>



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The Enemy of Nature: The End of Capitalism or the End of the World?

Joel Kovel

The choice that Joel Kovel offers in the title of this book is a gaunt one. He clearly lays out the indicting evidence against capitalism. It was never intended to be a steady-state system. Corporations are established for one purpose — to make money for shareholders by converting nature and labor into capital. Corporate managers are legally required to maximize profit for the investors. If they place the interests of workers, community, or the environment ahead of the profit interests of shareholders, they can (and probably will) be sued for breach of fiduciary duty. Trying to graft environmental ethics onto capitalism is like trying to mix oil and water: it takes considerable agitation, and then doesn't hold together very long.

Kovel makes the case that capitalism exhibits a compulsive, unrelenting, grow-or-die expansion and over-consumption of resources at non-sustainable rates. Growth so conceived means the destabilization and destruction of the natural foundation of society.

"Corporations have major incentives to 'externalize' their costs—to dump toxic materials into our air and water, to take inadequate steps to promote the health and dignity of workers and to oppose regulation and policy that enhances social justice or protect the environment, but might interfere with profits."

Attempting to halt and repair damage to nature without addressing the ongoing root cause is a no-win situation. Try as we might to work for ecological sanity, the logic of capitalism brings about a deadly set of inter-locking assaults on the life-sustaining natural processes and resources all of us depend upon.

Kovel sought the Green Party nomination for president in the 2000 primary election to keep the message alive that the root of ecological crises is capitalism itself. Ralph Nader won the nomination and ran a populist campaign for an ecologically sustainable, regulated capitalism. To Kovel, this is a fantasy.

Depletion of non-renewable resources, disruption of natural cycles, waste, and pollution aren't accidents. They are the result of business as usual under capitalism. Wetlands provide essential services in flood control and wildlife habitat, yet are filled in to make way for shopping malls and housing developments. Prime agricultural land is paved over by urban sprawl.

The logic of growth under capitalism translates into increased wealth for the few, but increasing stress and misery for the majority and mounting violence to the planet.

Kovel asks, in the face of all this mounting evidence, where is the rational discussion of the systemic assault on nature? If an individual behaved like a corporation, he would soon be arrested, put on trial, found guilty of crimes against humanity, and either locked up or committed to an institution for the criminally insane. Where is the discussion to address the underlying causes of so much damage and lay out a policy to remedy them?

The corporate media, and, through

the major textbook publishing companies, the educational system, have been successful in instilling pro-corporate, anti-socialist messages into the minds of the broad majority.

Federal and state environmental protection agencies like the Washington State Department of Ecology are the first to feel the budgetary pinch caused by military spending, tax breaks and handouts for the corporate aristocracy. The result: these agencies become financially crippled and less able to carry out their mandated duties. Corporations want to "get government off business' back!" For them, regulation is just another annoyance. "Each capitalist must constantly search to expand markets and profits", Kovel says, "or lose his position in the hierarchy. Under such a regime, nature is continually devalued."

"Try as we might to work for ecological sanity, the logic of capitalism brings about a deadly set of inter-locking assaults on the life-sustaining natural processes and resources all of us depend upon"

Kovel feels that we need a new system. He challenges the commonly held notion that there is no realistic alternative. If capitalism is inevitable and innate in human nature, he asks, then why has it only occupied the last couple hundred years out of a human history that goes back for hundreds of thousands of years? "Why did it have to be imposed through violence wherever it set down its rule? And most importantly, why does it have to be continually maintained through violence, and continuously re-imposed on each generation through an enormous apparatus of indoctrination?"

Can capitalism be reformed?

Kovel surveys the possibilities for turning things around. Many innovations that could help restore environmental health aren't adopted because they're not profitable enough to bother with. If change comes, it will have to come from outside the ranks of the corporate power structure.

Recycling, use of unleaded gasoline, and other good ideas can't bring about an ecologically sane society as long as capitalism remains in the driver's seat. These are patches over a senile system overdue for replacement.

If cooperatives became dominant, and if the entire economy was in cooperative hands, we could build a sane, sustainable society. But cooperative principles are only partially realizable as long as capitalism rules. Cooperatives and "green capitalism" are tolerated so long as they stay out of the way of the dominant players, but a major transition to a cooperative economy will be resisted by the corporations. It's simply not in their interest. A few years ago, the banking industry went on the offensive a modest expansion of credit unions into services that the banks claim.

As long as capitalism is dominant, cooperatives, credit unions, and other forms of economic democracy are forced

to either play the game according to the aggressive rules of capital, or go bankrupt. Capital hems them in and, through unrelenting competitive pressure, forces them to behave like capitalist businesses.

Kovel has some points to consider in the discussion on human population growth. There's no denying that the "population explosion" is a major problem, but it's one that has a secondary dynamic, determined and exacerbated by the capitalist system. The twin corporate needs for an expanding market and a growing supply of cheap labor are at odds with the need for a sustainable human population. Kovel holds that "Human beings have ample power to regulate population if they have power over the terms of their social existence. Giving people that power, where all people are in control of their lives, is the main point."

The key problem regarding human population is inequality in the distribution of wealth. While the poor starve, a wealthy few are literally making a killing.

The poor planning, sprawl, car culture, and freeway expansion that mark capitalist development, American-style, is especially destructive of nature - far beyond what population growth in itself can account for.

There are several paths out of the worsening environmental morass. I found Kovel's comparison and critique of the major Green tendencies—Populism, Green Capitalism, Bioregionalism, Ecofeminism, Deep Ecology as ad-

vanced by Edward Abbey, and Social Ecology as advanced by Murray Bookchin—quite intriguing.

One tendency currently in vogue, "Natural Capitalism", seeks to value nature accurately and mimic biological systems. Laudable, but because it works against the dominant drive of capitalism to maximize short-term profits, the chances of getting this adopted systemically are slim. Kovel says that one might as well try to raise chickens and weasels in the same pen. Those businesses that try to value natural capital correctly and do the right thing regarding the environment would out-competed by more aggressive companies that don't let these considerations get in their way.

Kovel feels that Ecosocialism offers a superior analysis and winning strategy. He defines Ecosocialism as "A society that is:

1. Socialist, in that the working class is reunited with the means of production in a robust flowering of democracy, and

2. Ecological, in that the "limits to growth" are finally respected, and nature is recognized as having intrinsic value and not simply cared for, but allowed to resume its inherently formative path."

Kovel emphasizes the centrality of overcoming the triple alienation people suffer under capitalism - alienation from nature, from the means and processes of production, and from each other in building a better world.

The late Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis once said that "We can have a democratic society, or we can have great concentrated wealth in the hands of a few. We cannot have both." We can update this axiom: "We can have an ecologically sustainable society, or we can have labor and natural resources treated as commodities. We cannot have both."

Community FreeSkool and Media Island Event

Community FreeSkool and Media Island would like to invite you to participate in this year's Toolkit series running from February-April 2004.

Last winter, Media Island International and the FreeSkool announced their collaboration with local and regional activists to present "An Activist's Toolkit: Workshops for Activists to Build a Stronger Grassroots Movement". The workshops were grouped into series which included; Effective Communication, Information Gathering and Distribution, Sustainable Activism, Creative Resistance, and Demonstration Preparation and Organizing. Workshops were offered at no cost to participants, and ran from January through April. More than 300 people attended.

Since we received such amazing feedback from participants, we have decided to make the Toolkit an annual event. This year's workshops, entitled "Citizen's Toolkit", will build on past coalitions that we've formed as well as develop new collaborations.

Here's how you can get involved:

1) Facilitate a class as an individual or as part of a group. Facilitators can

host a one time workshop, a series, or several different classes. The deadline for submission of classes is January 16.

2) Buy an ad space in our Toolkit workshop schedule. Contact the us at: freeskool@ureach.com. Submissions for ad space are due January 16.

3) Donate money. Although our workshops are free, there are many organizing costs. All of your donations will go towards helping to run the workshops. Donations can be made to: Media Island/FreeSkool at PO Box 7204 Olympia, WA 98507.

4) Volunteer. Organizing meetings will be happening regularly at MII/FreeSkool. Contact us at: freeskool@ureach.com.

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Looking for something meaningful to do for Martin Luther King Day this year?

Come to Poulsbo and get arrested!

Alice Zillah

The Poulsbo/Bremerton area is home to the Naval Submarine Base Bangor, which houses Trident nuclear submarines. Each of the Trident submarines is outfitted with 24 missiles. Each missile has eight nuclear warheads, and each of these warheads carries between seven and twenty-five times the amount of atomic force, in kilotons, that was in the bomb dropped on Hiroshima in 1945. This means that little Kitsap County has more atomic weapons than England, France, and China – combined. The destructive power housed at Bangor is capable of destroying the equivalent of thousands and thousands of Hiroshimas and Nagasakis.

The Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action is located just half a mile from the main gates of Bangor. Three times or more a year since 1977, people have gathered to be witnesses to this huge store of nuclear weapons, and to commit nonviolent civil disobedience to temporarily close the entrance to the base.

I first went on Mother's Day this past May, which is one of the three days that the group plans actions of civil disobedience. (The other days are Hiroshima/Nagasaki Day in early August and Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.) I was feeling a great sadness and powerlessness because of the Iraq war and Rachel Corrie's death. I wanted to do something tangible and personally challenging, and felt ready for my first act of civil disobedience.

The Ground Zero Center is located in a house on 3 1/2 wooded acres. It's a peaceful setting and unless you walk

"Following a trial in 1999, the presiding juror stated that she was 'proud to sit with these people.'"

back, past the Buddhist memorial and through the trees to the fence topped with razor wire, you would not know how close you are to a site of mass weaponry.

Approximately 35 people gathered at the Center that morning to drink coffee, share bagels and discuss the action. I met activists who had been coming to the Ground Zero Center for decades, and others like myself who were new. We sat in a circle and shared the reasons that we were there. An experienced volunteer who was coordinating this particular action explained exactly what would happen during the demonstration. I was impressed by how organized, friendly and calm the Ground Zero participants were.

Despite the calm and welcoming environment, I had knots in my stomach. While I had been arrested in a demonstration when I was 18, that was 11 years ago, and I felt less brave now. All sorts of anxieties went through my head. What if I had an asthma attack? What if the demonstration was reported in the local newspaper – would I jeopardize

my job by getting arrested? Would they let me off work if I had to go to a hearing and trial? Would my extended family think I was crazy for doing this?

As it turned out, all of my fears were unfounded. But I was not prepared by how powerful my first experience with civil disobedience would be.

At noon we left Ground Zero, walking silently single-file while peacekeepers in orange vests kept an eye on the traffic. I walked behind a woman push-

"They call the sheriff's office before each demonstration to let them know the time of the action and how many people to expect. This may seem weird, but it is the hallmark of 'classic' civil disobedience – keeping the focus on the real issue rather than developing antagonism towards the police."

ing a stroller, and, as I watched our shadows outlined in the bright sunlight, I thought about the women and children in Japan in 1945 and in Iraq today. I remembered reading how all that was left of many victims in Hiroshima and Nagasaki was their shadows, burned into the ground. I thought about how we don't even know the full extent of the tragedies that are occurring now in Iraq and Afghanistan, to people who have already had more than enough loss.

When we reached the gates, we stood silently on the side of the road. Some people prayed. I tried to meditate, to focus on why I was there. I also silently acknowledged the anger I felt towards the police and state patrol officers who were already there, milling around and

waiting to arrest us. Then the peacekeepers went into the road, flagging the incoming cars to a stop. After that everyone stepped into the road, and those of us that were going to be arrested lined up across the street. Between us we held paper cut-outs of children, made by a local elementary school class.

A police officer let us know that we had thirty seconds to leave the street, and that was the cue to everyone who didn't want to get arrested to step back to the side. The activists at Ground Zero have worked at developing a positive relationship with the police over the years. They call the sheriff's office before each demonstration to let them know the time of the action and how many people to expect. This may seem weird, but it is the hallmark of "classic" civil disobedience – keeping the focus on the real issue rather than developing antagonism towards the police.

As we were arrested, we dropped the paper cut-outs of children in the street. My arresting officer asked me to remove my wedding ring and earrings,

and then cuffed my hands behind my back. The action seemed both difficult and amazingly simple at the same time. I realized on an emotional level that I live in a country that requires me to make hard choices about the lengths to which I am willing to go to act on my beliefs.

We were taken in a van to the police station. There they efficiently took our information – name, address, birthday, etc. They charged each of us with

disorderly conduct, which seemed a little ironic considering how orderly the entire demonstration had been. We were given a court date a month away and then released. The entire process took less than an hour, and then we emerged blinking into the sunshine.

During the last three years, the prosecuting attorney in Kitsap County has declined to try activists arrested at Bangor. Each time the county did take the cases to trial in the past, juries acquitted the activists of all charges. In fact, the activists used the trials as an opportunity to talk about the illegality and immorality of weapons of mass destruction. Following a trial in 1999, the presiding juror stated that she was "proud to sit with these people." Three weeks after the Mother's Day demonstration, I learned that the charges against myself and the other arrestees had been dropped.

The next action at Bangor will be to commemorate Martin Luther King, Jr.

day on Saturday, January 17, beginning at 9:00 in the morning. For more information, you can contact the Ground Zero Center at www.gzcenter.org.

This column is sponsored by the Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace. OMJP is committed to building a society that meets the needs of all people, not one based on profit and economic values. We actively support movements that challenge corporate-sponsored globalization, and those that further racial, gender and economic equality. Our efforts are focused on working in solidarity and in coalition with individuals and groups on a local, regional, national, and global level. Our meetings are held every second and fourth Wednesday at the Olympia Community Center, located at 222 Columbia Way. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 14, and the focus will be on planning a large march and rally on March 20, 2004, the one-year anniversary of the war on Iraq. We welcome new people to our meetings.

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Plowshares Nuns: Winners of Bad Ass Criminals of 2003 award from JANE magazine!

Holly Gwinn Graham

Sacred Earth and Space Plowshares activists, Sisters Jackie Hudson O.P., Carol Gilbert O.P., and Ardeth Platte O.P., are serving varying sentences in 3 separate federal prisons for their symbolic "disarming" of a nuclear missile silo in Colorado. The Dominican Sisters have been in prison since their sentencing in July. They are refusing to pay \$3080.04 in fines for damages to the gate leading into the silo area since military-driven tanks and Humvees responding to their action actually did the damage.

In the spirit of the Plowshares activist movement begun by the Berrigan brothers, the nuns are willingly serving the time they've been given, but there is an appeal being considered.

The following letters are the first for general release from the Sisters in prison.

With extremely punitive measures being meted against activists these days, it is good to remember our friends on the inside. As Daniel Berrigan said, "Know where you stand, and stand there."

As you read Carol Gilbert's letter, remember that imprisoned women earn *twelve cents an hour*. Also remember that no longer can families send necessities to prisoners...all must be purchased from the prison store.

From Sister Carol Gilbert, O.P.

Serving 33 months at Alderson Federal Prison in West Virginia.

#1 - Early October 2003

As I wait for medical clearance and before I begin my "landscaping" job, I thought you might be interested in the costs of life at Alderson...

1. Issued one pair of steel-toed shoes (men's).

2. Shower thongs - \$.90, Tennis shoes - \$50.00 - 70.00, Boots - \$70 and up.

3. No free typewriter or computer available. Typewriter ribbon - \$7.50, Lift-off tape - \$1.25

4. No lock is provided for our lockers. Stealing is rampant. Locks are \$7.00.

5. Thin cap and garden gloves provided. No scarf. Hat, gloves and scarf are \$20.

6. Issued one pair of men's long underwear. Long tops - \$8, Long bottoms - \$5.

7. Headphones and radios control the TVs and videos in housing units and chapel. Headphones - \$30 - 50.00.

8. 24 over-the-counter commons medicines are sold. This is where you are sent to treat yourself. Yeast infection medication - \$13.

9. Grey sweatshirts and sweatpants are allowed after 4:00 PM and on weekends. Cost - \$14.20 each - more for larger sizes (men's).

10. Fruit and fruit juices are sold weekly for those who can afford and want fruit more than once a day or so.

11. Wash is done in the main laundry, but only the clothes they issue are so washed. In the housing units, wash is \$.40, dry - .40, and laundry soap - \$2 - \$6.00.

12. Fans, alarm clocks, watches, sunglasses - all must be purchased.

13. Money orders can no longer be sent to inmates with a letter. All money orders go to a national lock box in Marietta, GA.

And, of course, selling one's body is the last resort for some women.

This gives you an idea of how the poor remain poor, since average jobs in here are \$5.25 - 18.00 a month unless one works for the prison industry UNICOR for slave wages. If any fines or restitution are owed, money is taken monthly from these wages. Life can be unbearable for these poor women.

Well, this *is* prison. But impoverished conditions exist in the military, too. In the October 6th issue of *The Nation* Christian Parenti reports on conditions of military troops in Iraq right now. They are so ill equipped for combat they are buying essentials from civilian suppliers using their own money. Some of their weapons date back to the Vietnam era, and are as defective now as they were then.

Makes one wonder what the difference is between the Prison-Industrial complex and the Military-Industrial complex. And where are all those billions going?

#2 - November 2003

Many of you have asked about my work scene at Alderson. As soon as a

finished, we are free to fill in the hours. My time is spent in prayer, reading, writing letters, walking, listening, and knitting.

Sister Carol Gilbert, O.P. #10856-039

FPC Alderson, Route 1, Box A, Alderson, WV 24910

Letters from Sr Jackie Hudson, O.P. Serving 30 months

October 2003: Greetings from Victorville! I am adjusting slowly but surely to desert living. Mornings and evenings are comfortable but as afternoon wears on it is very hot. I have seen so many beautiful sunsets.

The prison is located on the former George Air Force Base. We are living on top of a toxic waste dump, and so I have been purchasing some of my drinking water. Local water is used for cooking and bathing, however. The water has also been cleared for industrial use, whatever that means!

It is amazing how many people how have written know exactly where Victorville is; guess not too many towns are in the desert between L.A. and Las Vegas. It stands out as an oasis. The seven prisons in the area no doubt helped increase the population from 40,000 in 1990 to 72,000 in 2000. I'm sure the residents see us as their job security.

The most difficult thing about being here is listening to the tragic stories of so many women ... Actually there is not one woman here you would hesitate to invite into your home. If we were not all in green, it would look like a gathering of women in Anywhere, USA.

person receives medical clearance, a job is assigned. This is a designated work camp and everyone, from the oldest to the youngest, the strongest to the weakest, works. Work can be as simple as polishing the water fountain.

My first weeks were spent searching for work. I applied to laundry, commissary, outside chapel maintenance, cottage maintenance, and landscaping. Some jobs are more labor intensive, like landscaping, and can be completed in a few hours with a lot of idle time. Pay can range from the minimum \$5.25 a month to 12 cents an hour - about \$18.00 a month. The exception is UNICOR, the prison industry. The weeks passed and I waited for my name to appear on the daily call-out sheet. The end of October, my name appeared - Central Dining Room...a job with little to do but sit and wait, all day long!

The kitchen is overrun with cockroaches. During down time we were allowed no books, magazines, cards, pens, yarn, nothing! This policy goes for every job site, but is ignored elsewhere.

I knew I could not stand the boredom. Mrs. Flack, my new counselor, moved me after three days of CDR to cottage maintenance bathrooms. So five days a week, four of us clean two large bathrooms for 100-125 women. The good news is that when the work is

I experienced my first "team meeting" with two case managers and my counselor. The meeting began with my counselor telling me I would pay \$25 a month toward my court assessment and restitution - "sign here to authorize the withdrawal!" Needless to say, I refused, so I am now on "Refusal Status". Consequences have to do with my housing assignment, future furlough, and half-way-house assignment. These present no problem, but limited commissary spending may pinch a bit. The women have been wonderful in making arrangements to cover my needs, so I'm not too concerned at this point.

We have been ordered to pay \$3080.04 in restitution to the government for damages at the missile site. It is impossible for any of us to pay one penny to a government that would earmark that money for the "kill chain".

The Team then told me to take a "Victim Impact Class." I laughed at the thought of this government being a "victim" of our action!

At present I have no assigned job though the camp administrator has told me that "this is a work camp." The majority of the women here have been transferred from Dublin, CA and Phoenix, AZ, to assure that the maximum security prison for 2,000 men will be ready to open by March 2004. It has truly been slave labor - women wield

pickaxes in the desert terrain so that landscaping can be done. They rake manure so that grass can be planted for soccer and baseball fields...they rake rocks, paint cells, lug mattresses, etc.

UNICOR, the nation-wide prison industry, has been building Humvees and army trailers. These are the highest paying jobs, so there is a waiting list for employment. Basically, there are too many women for the available jobs, so that many women are not being paid the normal wage of twelve cents and hour. (Ironically, in the men's federal prisons, the hourly wage is seventeen cents per hour. Inequality knows no boundaries.)

Health care in the facility is horrendous. The physician assistant in charge told me this is not the place to become ill. She tries desperately to keep up, but runs into many brick walls with the administration.

The most difficult thing about being here is listening to the tragic stories of so many women. Many had trust in the court system and refused to plead guilty to false charges. They went to trial where they experienced severe sentences alleging conspiracy, for which it is nearly impossible to mount an adequate defense.

Actually there is not one woman here you would hesitate to invite into your home. If we were not all in green, it would look like a gathering of women in Anywhere, USA.

Imprisoning vast numbers of our population is big business, I fear, and part of empire building. We acted in Colorado because it is the home of the "kill chain" and home to Air Force Space Command, which just celebrated its 21st anniversary. It is a task for the informed to undertake the stopping of this nation's drive toward a future of exploitation and domination through war. May we each find the role we can play in this effort.

May your lives be blessed, may the Light guide you on your journey toward a peace-filled planet.

December 2003 - Epistle from Victorville

The fires have ended, thanks be to God. The cold days have come, yet the sun shines most everyday.

My 69th birthday was truly a celebration of life! Many women signed cards. One crocheted a beautiful afghan and a warm cap. And many, many greetings!

Carol and Ardeth's letters have been forwarded to me so I have learned some that goes on in Danbury and Alderson. Carol and I have permission to correspond about legal matters- so I sent her a "legal birthday greetings." Her birthday was November 22, 2003. In many ways, Victorville provides more than either Alderson or Danbury. Carol's experience with her "team" was much more brutal than mine and I don't have to see them again until March 2004.

I wrote my first and only poetry after meeting with my "team", a haiku:

Victorville Team

The Triumvirate Demanding and Demeaning Sacrificing Soul The staff
(Continued next page)

(Plowshares Nuns, continued)

"counselors" and case managers must take a course to learn the best way to negate and demean their inmate's lives. This process certainly leaves them LESS human. I pray for them daily as well as for their families, who must experience the aftermath of a day at work. The sad part is that so many of the jobs here are very low paying. This inevitably draws many desperate folks, with the job market what it is today.

Carol has mentioned the number of older women arriving at Alderson. Here too. Mid November brought us Frieda (80 years old) to serve a 12-month sentence. She can hardly walk. She has been provided a wheelchair to get around for meals, etc. Her crime was committed in 1996 and was just now prosecuted. She is a perfect candidate for house arrest or probation. This sentence reflects where we are at as a nation under Ashcroft and Bush.

There are 10 of us between the ages of 65 and 80 serving time in this American Gulag. I have been given three work assignments since I've been here - none of which I could physically accomplish - all involving walking a total of 4 miles a day just to get to the job site. The medical person has me listed as unable to work but this designation needs to be renewed monthly: so far, so good.

Hopefully something less physically strenuous will open up soon because I do not want to be sent to Carsewell, TX. This is the prison hospital. The medical unit there is one horror story after another. I just keep my mantra going - "Thank you, Jesus, for keeping me healthy."

Carol, Ardeth and I were nominated by JANE magazine as "Bad Ass Criminals for 2003" in the October 2003 issue. Folks voted on the Internet and WE WON! Am I having fun with that! The results were posted in the December issue. They had several categories - Bad Ass and Ass Bad - Bad Ass being the GOOD category.

On the topic of acknowledgements, the three of us were presented with the Nuclear Free Resistance Award in Munich Germany. Ours was in the category of Resistance. S. Diane Zervas accepted for us.

I have received many gifts of books. These arrive in clear plastic bags, stapled shut with the address label showing but no return address showing. Many thanks if you have sent something and I have not acknowledged it. Large brown envelopes are received intact if marked "Authorized by BOP Policy".

Several folks have asked what they can send. Basically, no stamps or cards or envelopes, etc. Financial help can be sent to Sue Ablao - 3495 Dyes Inlet NW, Bremerton, WA 98312. This covers phone calls, stamps, correspondence, commissary and other needed items.

My Love to each of you, Jackie Sister Jackie Hudson, O.P.

#08808-039

FPC Victorville, Box 5100
Adelanto, CA 92301

Letter from Sister Ardeth Platte, O.P.
Serving 41 months

"When injustice becomes law, civil disobedience becomes duty." Leeds card

"When just laws are broken by governments, nonviolent resistance is duty" Sr. Ardeth

"You do not get the power of the vision until you perform it on earth for others to see."

Adapted from Black Elk Speaks

Dear Family, Sisters, and Friends,

During these Advent and Christmas seasons I have chosen the three statements above for reflection as a means to creating a better future for children. At Jonah House with community we study the Scriptures daily and in prison many of us pick up our Bibles to get us through another day, to keep our hearts open for the Holy Spirit, and open to each other in our vulnerability. It seems more difficult to celebrate in lieu of inimical relations all over the world, more military bases established, more weapons targeting nations, more weapons sold, more walls being built and cities falling apart. It is difficult to celebrate when so many families are suffering, weeping over lost ones murdered by bombings, injured by environmental catastrophes and the desperation caused by downward economic trends.

The other side of this is that Christmas still initiates light and hope into the darkness. The good news that each of you shares in your peace journals, your analysis of these times and your grand direct actions are acts of hope.

These things fill us with gratitude:

-for thousands of you in Miami outside the FTAA negotiations. (Nov. 17 - 21) -for thousands of you at The School of the Americas on Ft. Benning in Columbus GA and the many who risked arrest to close this school that trains assassins in terrorist tactics. (Nov. 21-23) - for you who will be spending time in the courts and in jails and prisons for your stand against murder, torture and the disappeared. - for you who vigiled weekly at Bath Iron Works, ME to witness your abhorrence of the construction of more Aegis ships. - for all of you who will gather at Offutt AFB in Omaha, the Pentagon, White House, Rumsfeld's house, and at nuclear sites throughout the country on Holy Innocents' Day on behalf of children. Yes, we continue on the road to peace with justice each new day. In the names of Sr. Carol in Alderson Prison, Sr. Jackie in Victorville Prison and my voice added to theirs "A blessed, holy, gift-and-grace-filled season to you and to all with whom you share your lives. My love and prayers!

Always grateful,
Ardeth Platte

10857-039
FPC Danbury, Rt. 37
Danbury, CT 06811

Maria Cain: Raising Cain on Corporate Tax Loopholes

Dave Zink

Every two years, Washington State gives over \$45 billion dollars in State and local tax exemptions to private individuals and companies. This creates a perpetual crisis in our state's budget. It shifts the tax burden away from those most capable of paying, and onto the backs of the rest of us, while funding for essential state services comes up short.

Due to the lobbying efforts of special interests, many of these exemptions have become permanent, without regular legislative or legal review and analysis.

After nearly 120 years of tax exemptions, Washington State has a taxation system that is more loophole than substance. It is unfair, undemocratic, irrational, and economically unsound.

This year, Washington State is facing the largest budget deficit in its history, estimated at \$2.6 billion. Yet, rather than removing or adjusting tax exemptions, proposed budget cuts have targeted public programs, including education (\$442 million), public safety (\$112 million), health care and social services (\$863 million), pay and benefits for State employees (\$774 million) (Governor Locke's Proposed 2003 - 2005 State Budget). Cuts contained in the proposed Senate budget are even more extensive.

This means reductions-in-force and crippling of state agencies in carrying out their mandated duties.

■ We have a choice: Shall we continue cutting the budget? Or shall we eliminate and adjust tax exemptions to increase tax revenues to maintain and restore programs benefiting the public, and more equitably distribute the tax burden?

We can thank Maria Cain for our knowledge of these problems. She has sifted through reams of Department of Revenue figures and other information to determine the full extent of corporate welfare through tax loopholes.

Her work, funded by the Rockefeller

Brothers Fund, involved examining Washington State's publicly funded international trade promotion activity. This led to an examination of the states economic conditions and the state budget. Her work has been in collaboration with the Harrison Institute for Public Law at Georgetown University Law Center.

Her groundbreaking report titled **Washington State Tax Exemptions: Unsustainable, Unjust, Undemocratic, and Just Plain Bad Economics** can be viewed at the Center for Applied Ecological Economics website:

<http://www.a-p-e-x.org/Library/WA%20Tax%20Exemption%20Report.pdf>

Maria Cain has extensive experience in governmental activity at local, regional, state and international levels. She served as an elected council member in the City of Bellevue and as Legislative Analyst for the King County Council.

As an expert witness, she was invited to speak in Washington, California, and Canada on varied land use law; transportation; international trade; and the many faces of corporate subsidy, such as the Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI), the Free Trade Agreement of the Americas (FTAA), the World Trade Organization (WTO), and the General Agreements on Trade in Services (GATS).

Maria Cain will be in Olympia for two lunchtime presentations on her findings. You are invited:

Noon 5 January at the General Administration Building auditorium on the capitol campus.

She will repeat her presentation at noon 6 January at the Department of Ecology's HQ Building.

These presentations are brought to you by the Washington Federation of State Employees.

Knowledge + organization = power.

(Others Reconsider Involvement In Iraq, continued)

report commissioned by Director George Tenet has determined that the insurgency has grown to around 50,000 people. This number is not merely the remnants of Saddam's old dictatorial Ba'athist party, but is an indication that there is a strong popular movement of Iraqis who are organized and opposed to the occupation. This popular move-

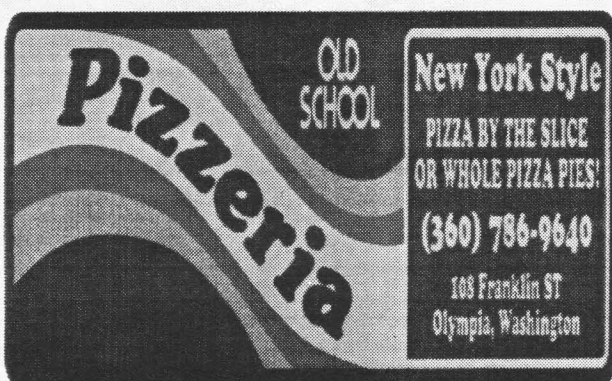
America, European, and Iraqi lives for the ambitious entrepreneurial objectives of a handful of US companies, particularly Bechtel and Halliburton; it is a callous and insane enterprise, devoid of any humanitarian objectives. The role of the United States, that is if the United States should have any role at all in Iraq, should be in using its rich resources to

The current US policy toward Iraq is completely unethical...it is a callous and insane enterprise, devoid of any humanitarian objectives.

ment, and not Saddam or his party, has been the true enemy of the United States during this war, as general John Abizaid, head of US Central Command, said, "The goal of the enemy is not to defeat us militarily. The goal is to break the will of the United States, and make us leave."

The current US policy toward Iraq is completely unethical. It is risking

support movements in that nation which are built on democracy and human rights. It is quite clear that the solution to Iraq's and the United States' problems, with dictatorial figures monopolizing and illegally over-running their public institutions, could be solved through greater democratization in which their nations are governed by their people and not by their ruthless, self-serving elite.





WORKS IN PROGRESS

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Others Reconsider
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year?
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Maria Cain

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SOLIDARITY WITH LEONARD PELTIER MARCH AND RALLY FOR JUSTICE SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2004, TACOMA, WA

12:00 NOON: MARCH FOR JUSTICE
Portland Ave. Park (on Portland Ave. between E. 24th and E.
Fairbanks Ave. Take Portland Ave. exit off I-5 and head east)

1:00 PM: RALLY FOR JUSTICE

U.S. Federal Court House, 1717 Pacific Ave.

CARAVAN FOR JUSTICE:

SEATTLE: Meet at 10:45 AM at the parking lot at 22nd and
Madison

OLYMPIA: Meet at 10:45 AM at Media Island, 816 Adams



As individual fingers we can
easily be broken, but all
together we make a mighty
fist.

JAN
2004

Sitting Bull



TACOMA LEONARD PELTIER SUPPORT GROUP

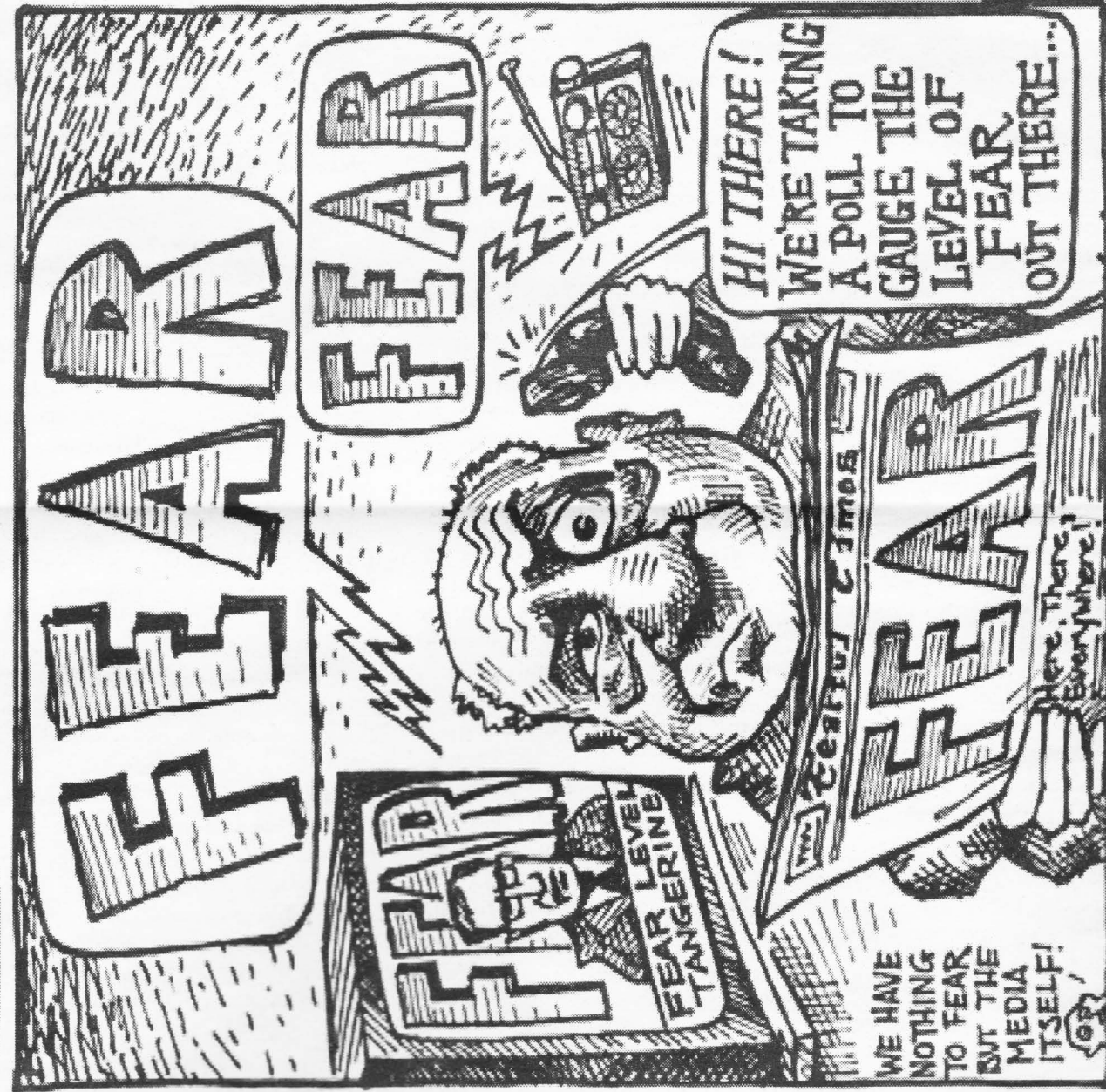
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Speakers
Harold Belmont: Elder, Native People's
Alliance With Friends and Allies
Dorothy Ackerman: Lakota Elder
Shelly Yendola: Indigenous Women's
Network/ Indigenous Environmental
Network
Pete Sanchez: Ktunaxa (Kutenai),
Drummer
Kelly White: Coastal Salish, long time
B.C. Peltier activist
Kerwin Hemlock: Drummer
Joanette Bushnell: Native People's
Alliance With Friends and Allies
Michael One Road: Portland AIM
Juan Jose Bocanegra: Community
organizer and long time Peltier
supporter.
Matt Remle: Kunkapa Lakota/ Native
Youth Action
Steve Hady, Jr.: Tacoma LPSG
Arthur L. Miller: Tacoma LPSG
NW AIM DRUM

W.I.P.



A. WERKER

Works In Progress
PO Box 295
Olympia, WA 98507

